

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/459,290

Examiner

Justin T. Darrow

Applicant(s)

HAGMEIER ET AL.

Art Unit

2132

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment filed 10/22/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-7,9,10,12 and 14.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 December 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Claims 1-19 have been presented for examination. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended and claims 3, 8, 11, 13, and 15-19 have been cancelled in an amendment filed 10/22/2004. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12, and 14 have been examined.

### ***Docketing***

2. This application has been docketed to Primary Examiner Justin T. Darrow in Group Art Unit 2132 in Technology Center 2100.

### ***Priority***

3. Receipt is acknowledged of a paper submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which paper has been placed of record in the file.
4. Acknowledgment is made for the benefit of an earlier filing date of Application No. 199 01 523.6 filed in Germany on 01/16/1999.

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 10, 12, and 14 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:  
  
Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, and 14; and claims 6, 7, 9, and 10 are drawn to a method and device for administering identifying characteristics in a computer. The closest prior art, McCulligh, U.S. Patent No. 6,643,784 B1, discloses a similar method and device. However, he neither teaches nor suggests enabling a selection facility for subsequent actuation by the user to transmit

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the identifying characteristic to an identifying characteristic processing device, where the selection facility remains disabled until the inputted identifying characteristic meets the check criteria, and transmitting the identifying characteristic to the identifying characteristic processing device upon enablement of the selection facility and subsequent actuation of the selection facility by the user to transmit the identifying characteristic to the device. This combination of limitations incorporated into independent claims 1 and 6 render claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 12, and 14; and claims 6, 7, 9, and 10, respectively, allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Sanden Corp. (Kimura), Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 10-222731 A discloses a system for performing fingerprint registration processing including judging processing at a host computer for user authentication at vending machines

### ***Telephone Inquiry Contacts***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Justin T. Darrow whose telephone number is (571) 272-3801, and

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whose electronic mail address is [justin.darrow@uspto.gov](mailto:justin.darrow@uspto.gov). The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barrón, Jr., can be reached at (571) 272-3799.

The fax number for Formal or Official faxes to Technology Center 2100 is (703) 872-9306. In order for a formal paper transmitted by fax to be entered into the application file, the paper and/or fax cover sheet must be signed by a representative for the applicant. Faxed formal papers for application file entry, such as amendments adding claims, extensions of time, and statutory disclaimers for which fees must be charged before entry, must be transmitted with an authorization to charge a deposit account to cover such fees. It is also recommended that the cover sheet for the fax of a formal paper have printed **"OFFICIAL FAX"**. Formal papers transmitted by fax usually require three business days for entry into the application file and consideration by the examiner. Formal or Official faxes including amendments after final rejection (37 CFR 1.116) should be submitted to (703) 872-9306 for expedited entry into the application file. It is further recommended that the cover sheet for the fax containing an amendment after final rejection have printed not only **"OFFICIAL FAX"** but also **"AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL"**.

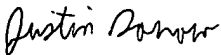
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

March 11, 2005

  
**JUSTIN T. DARROW**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100**